

SUPPLEMENT. THE OCCIDENT.

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WHOLE No. 1074.

THE : PACIFIC : COAST.

THE CAPITAL.

A Typical California City Presented Just As It Is.

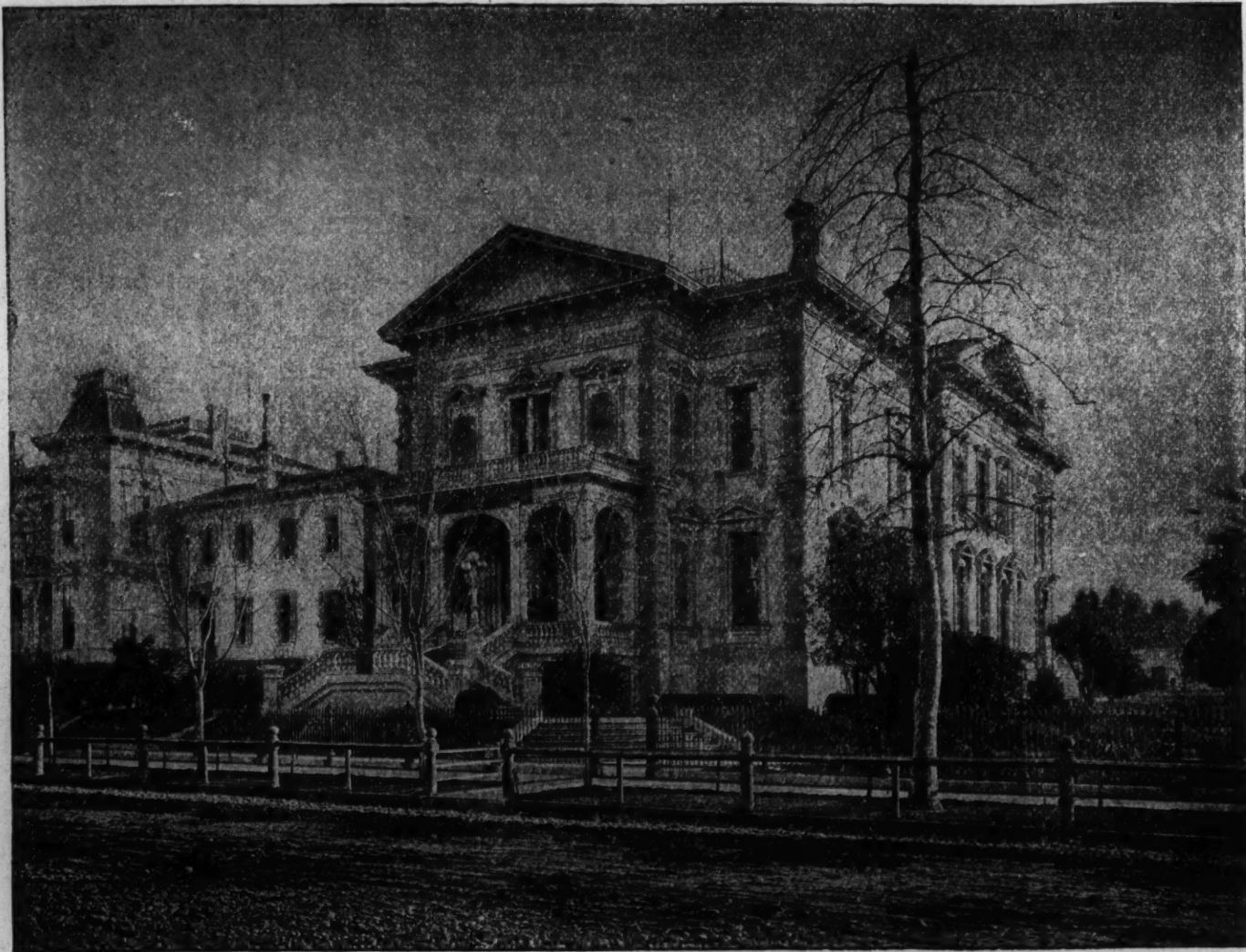
No city in the State is more thoroughly Californian in appearance and character than Sacramento, the capital. It was laid out just at the time of the discovery of gold, and received its first impulse of growth from the emigrants drawn to the State by the presence of that precious metal. To its favorable situation as a point of supply for the mining regions was due its rapid growth, which circumstance also largely determined the character of its population and of the business transacted. To the pioneers who still live there, fond of their memories of the excitement of life in the 50's, it seems very dull, but to the thoughtful visitor it is most interesting as an example of a thriving city which still exhibits plainly in its moral, social, political, commercial and physical characteristics the natural results of its origin. San Francisco is a thoroughly cosmopolitan city, but Sacramento is a distinctly Californian city. It is situated on an extensive plain, on the east bank of the Sacramento river near its confluence with the American river, and is about twenty-five miles from the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains. From here ran roads northwardly and southwardly to the various settlements in the

ageous and energetic men, all inspired with the desire to suddenly become rich, most seeking wealth in the mines, but some in the channels of trade. Among them were many men of intelligence and ability, while the disreputable and desperate elements were probably not so much greater in proportion to the whole than in the older communities of the east, as is generally supposed. Many succeeded in digging fortunes out of the ground, and probably as many realized them through commercial enterprises. Among the mercantile concerns established at Sacramento at that time were many which have become prominent among the largest and most important on the Pacific coast, some of which still conduct their business at Sacra-

rounding country was settled by those who followed a variety of agricultural pursuits, and thus greater stability was given to the business of the city. The city grew but little, yet it strengthened and solidified as does the soft and weak sapling, as it slowly changes to the hard and tough hickory tree, capable of resisting storms which would have carried the sapling away. This period has in turn passed by, and the city is now entering upon a new era of growth and development. Not a period of abnormal growth and intense excitement, such as that of 1850, but one during which the growth will be slow but steady and permanent, in harmony with the growth of population and wealth in the State at large, and especially

notable additions to the business institutions of the city, outside of these distinctly agricultural lines, are the shops of the C. P. R. R. Their situation at the junction of roads running north, south, east, and west, on rivers furnishing an abundant supply of water, so necessary to large manufacturing enterprises, and often so scarce in this State, and in close proximity to the mountains over which the Central Pacific comes, is all that could be desired in the location of the railroad shops. Though small works have been located there since the construction of the first railroads in the State, it is only since the consolidation of the various railroad enterprises under the Southern Pacific company that they have attained their present great propor-

tions. There are now employed in them about three thousand workmen, and the number and variety of shops and the force employed are steadily increasing. There are conducted all the shop repairs incident to the roads from Ogden to San Francisco, San Francisco to Ashland, and from Sacramento to El Paso, while the road from Ashland to Portland will soon demand the same. In addition to all this repair work, the company there manufactures all the chairs, fish-bars, bolts, and rail trimmings used in the maintenance of these thousands of miles of railroad, and also carries on the construction of freight and passenger cars and complete locomotives.



CROCKER ART GALLERY.

mento, though they have so extended it as to now also have establishments in other parts of the State. It was the Crockers, Huington, Hopkins, and Stanford of Sacramento who first gave the trans-continental railroad tangible shape, and it was the enterprise of Sacramento men which secured the location of the capitol there, and later the great railroad shops. After the period of abnormal growth and excitement which marked the years following the gold excitement and the completion of the overland railroad, came a period of quiet which seemed dull enough in the strong contrast. But it was also a period of development during which much that was unstable among the commercial and political institutions of the city disappeared. The sur-

rounding country was settled by those who followed a variety of agricultural pursuits, and thus greater stability was given to the business of the city. The city grew but little, yet it strengthened and solidified as does the soft and weak sapling, as it slowly changes to the hard and tough hickory tree, capable of resisting storms which would have carried the sapling away. This period has in turn passed by, and the city is now entering upon a new era of growth and development. Not a period of abnormal growth and intense excitement, such as that of 1850, but one during which the growth will be slow but steady and permanent, in harmony with the growth of population and wealth in the State at large, and especially

The facts that such shops are located there, and that nearly all the railroads of the State are connected and under one management, are sufficient to demonstrate the advantages of Sacramento as a point of supply and distribution, and the city is now attracting much attention in that connection. As the surrounding country became more thickly populated, a greater variety of pursuits have become well developed. The mining interests of the section of the State tributary to the city are by no means small, though they do not attract the undivided attention of the people that they once did. The agricultural interests are now the most important, and the city is surrounded by a large area already famous for its products of fruit and grain. At Sacramento are several large

It was laid out in the fall of 1848, after the announcement of the discovery of gold, and when the commencement of mining operations along the Cosumnes, American, Feather, and Sheba rivers, made necessary a central depot for the sale and distribution of supplies. There soon gathered a population of cour-

flouring mills, converting the grain from the surrounding country into some of the best flour made in the State, while as the principal shipping point of the California Fruit Union, and others engaged in the same business, it conducts an enormous commerce with all the leading cities of the eastern States, extending it even to Europe.

It will be seen that the business interests of Sacramento rest upon no uncertain foundation. Surrounded by a large area of fruitful and well watered country, steadily filling with new comers, who are increasing and diversifying the productions of the soil, the city must increase also as a point at which these products are first collected and then distributed all over the country to the consumers. For this its unequalled facilities for transportation by land and water afford advantages which must redound greatly to the benefit of the city.

The various manufacturing interests of the city are steadily assuming more importance, and the presence and success of the car shops is becoming a factor in their development, by retaining a large number of skilled workmen in the city.

BUILDINGS.

The appearance of the city might almost be inferred from the above. The streets are well paved, broad, straight, and level, and in the residence portions almost universally shaded with large, beautiful trees. During the days when the influx of population was so rapid and so great, buildings were hurriedly constructed of whatever material was at hand, and without much regard to appearance or convenience. These buildings still form the mass of the oldest portion of the city. But with the sudden acquisition of fortune, so common in these days, came the desire to make display and also, perhaps, to draw attention in the sense of advertising, by constructing more showy buildings. Then arose a number of buildings quite out of all keeping with the needs, number, or wealth of the community, designed rather for display than in accordance with the dictates of good taste. Some good buildings were constructed, notably the capitol. The largest and most expensive model, the capitol at Washington, was selected, and \$3,000,000 was expended in its construction. And so a community numbering not more than 500,000 souls, erected a structure for the seat of their government, the construction of which many older States would hesitate to undertake, and which the people of California are not likely soon to undertake again.

During the last few years, however, better judgment has prevailed, and the appearance of the city has greatly improved. Many new residences, of most tasteful design, have been erected, the grounds surrounding which have been beautified as is possible only in a semi-tropical climate. The great attractions of the city are the beauty and home-like appearance of the residences. Nearly all have some open grounds around them, which are ornamented with semi-tropical shrubs, flowers and trees dotted over lawns, kept green all the year by plentiful use of water and frequent cutting. The views down the straight, wide streets, over-arched by handsome trees and lined with tasteful dwellings, set in lawns, ornamented by luxuriant shrubs and plants, some of which are at all times in blossom, are very beautiful and attractive, and lend a great charm to the city as a place of residence.

CLIMATE.

Nor are other elements of a pleasant place of residence wanting. The climate is semi-tropical and is quite as good as any in this State, so famous for its health resorts. One hears so much of "climates" in California that comparisons and tabulated statements of temperature and rainfall seem almost useless, in attempting to harmonize the various approvals and disapprovals with which the new comer is almost distracted. Probably as much of the difference of opinion is due to the individuals passing judgment as to the climatic differences. What is best suited to one constitution and quite agreeable to one nervous condition may be quite unpleasant and unsuited to others. Climatic differences need be but slight to render a locality a pleasant place of residence for one person and quite unfit for another, while much allowance must be made in a well balanced judgment for the influence upon the uninformed of the elaborate systems of puffery which have been so liberally, and certainly not always wisely, used in favor of some localities. Certainly the summers there are not so warm as in some of the more advertised portions of the State, nor the winters so cold and damp as in others. Unpleasant winds are not at all frequent, and the rain fall is so copious as to preclude any need of irrigation in the agricultural districts.

The climate is slightly malarial, though not seriously so. Some constitutions, predisposed, perhaps to such influences, are unpleasantly affected, but malarial diseases are not prevalent in serious forms. The city is not beyond the purifying effects of the sea breezes and the winds which at times descend from the mountains, also assist in maintaining the healthfulness of the locality.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is drawn from the river. While the water is pure and wholesome, it is often loaded with earthy matter, as is common with rivers running between soft banks, and in mid-summer is unpleasantly warm. It is, however, easily cleared, and ice, or evaporation, easily reduce its temperature. The city authorities are discussing several schemes for clarifying the water pumped for city use, and when some satisfactory means are in use, one of the objections sometimes raised will be removed.

SEWERAGE.

The sewerage is not all that could be desired, yet it is quite as good as is usually found in cities situated upon level plains. The city authorities are also discussing means of improving that, and doubtless it will soon be better.

In these matters of public improvement, a good spirit prevails in the community, fostered by an "Improvement Association" composed of citizens who work through committees independent of the city officials. It devotes much time and money to the agitation and discussion of public affairs, and is an efficient means of directing public sentiment and of securing vigorous action on the part of the city authorities.

On the whole, Sacramento will compare very favorably with other cities of the coast in the matter of climate, water, sewerage, accessibility and business prosperity, while in the elements of moral and social life it is as well developed and a peculiarly Californian town.

It has been seen that the city had its origin as a supply point for the mines. The conditions of life were

demoralizing, and the best could not entirely resist the bad effects of the unhealthy moral atmosphere around them. For a time the destructive elements were in the ascendancy, but with the decline of excitement, the influx of new comers with the home influences still strong within them, a new era came, and the better influences regained their sway. Some pessimists still insist that no good can come out of such beginnings, but a review of the situation will furnish ground for gratification that so much in the way of healthy reform has been accomplished in so short a time. The effects of the early conditions are still shown in customs and manners of thought and life, that are not all that could be desired, yet these are quite capable of being rectified in time, by patience and good work. Open gambling and low dives still exist in some quarters of the city, to the shame of the public authorities, but public sentiment is slowly turning against them, and they will doubtless soon lose their place.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

The schools are doing a good work among the young, who show much less plainly than the adults the effects of the life of the early days. They are abundant and good. The public sentiment is strongly in favor of the maintenance of a high grade of work, and of supplying all necessary facilities, and there is a pardonable pride in their reputation. They are divided into high, grammar, and primary departments, to which are added some ungraded and evening schools. There are thirteen public schools with an average enrollment of about 3300 pupils, and their maintenance requires about \$85,000 per annum. The primary schools embrace four grades, the grammar schools four, and the high school three, the entire course of study covering twelve years, and preparing the scholar for entrance to the State University or for a first-class teacher's certificate. In addition there are numerous private schools, some denominational in character, others presenting special courses of study, and some being for male or female pupils alone.

The city maintains a public library of about 15,000 volumes of all kinds, while the State University containing about 35,000 volumes, is accessible to any whose studies or researches may be aided by its use. These are supplemented by a beautiful Art Gallery, a monument to the liberality of one of Sacramento's citizens, Mrs. Margaret E. Crocker, who so generously bestowed the gallery and its valuable contents upon the city. The citizens are justly proud of its possession, and it is doing no inconsiderable work of refinement, through the attractions upon its walls, and the School of Design connected therewith, which is attracting considerable attention.

CHURCHES.

The church is doing a difficult work which requires good men and true, and often seems to be without any reward. The results, in the increase of the number of communicants, seem small, but the total influence of the church must not be measured by these alone. It is but a few years since the whirl of demoralizing excitement began to decline, and the churches became anything like an organized force in the community. Since then, public sentiment has immensely improved. How much of the improvement is due to the work of the church among the young is hard to justly estimate, but those who measure it only by additions to the communion roll,

will certainly greatly underestimate it. The quiet work is still going on, under the ministrations of earnest men, who should not become discouraged through not seeing large congregations gathering each Sabbath around the altars in their churches. If they may live another score of years, until the present young people have made homes for themselves, they may be happily surprised to see in the better home influences around them, a great reward for what seemed unprofitable work. The commerce of the city will help them, for commerce is a most conservative element. It favors integrity and industrious application to honest labor, and these are rarely found in connection with grossly immoral personal character. It is undoubtedly due to the growth of the commercial interests of the city, in conjunction with the influence of the moral element of the population working in harmony with, though not always through, the churches, that so great improvement has been made in so short a time. The struggle now is between influences, and at present the predominating influences are for better things, though their results will become plainly visible only as one generation succeeds another.

In the city are thirteen evangelical Protestant churches, one Christian church and one Unitarian church, with an aggregate of about 2,000 communicants, and with about the same number of children and young people in their Sunday schools. It is also the see of the Roman Catholic diocese, and there is now in course of construction, a cathedral church which is designed to be one of the most imposing buildings upon the coast, and which will cost about \$250,000.

U. S. GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

The United States Government has purchased a site for a building to contain the Post Office, and quarters for various Government officials, which will be a handsome structure of stone and brick, which will be an ornament to the city.

While the position as the Capital of the State is a matter of some financial profit to the city, it is certainly a serious drawback in other ways. The meetings of the legislature there are attended with the same unfortunate effects which attend the meetings of large political bodies almost everywhere. The honest and well meaning men are generally outnumbered by a horde of politicians, lobbyists and office-seekers, who are willing to sacrifice all decency and honesty for the accomplishment of selfish and often dishonest purposes. Gambling, drinking and dissipation of all kinds are carried to great excess by many, while the emissaries of fraud and corruption, often but poorly disguised, are met on every hand. Much as one may regret this, it is a fact, and there, as in nearly every Capital in the Union, the honor of being the Capital may be a worse than empty one.

So this city has, within the lifetime of some of its founders, changed its dress until it is in a fair way to soon deserve the title of a beautiful city, while its population of 30,000 find a score of police quite sufficient to keep the turbulent elements in check, and great crimes are as infrequent as in almost any city of its size in the Union. Order-loving commerce has extended its softening influence, while churches, schools, libraries and art galleries exert their power for good, and to-day the Capital City invites new comers by its business prospects, and by the inducements it offers for homes.

MONTHLY REVIEW.

A Supplement will be issued monthly, or more frequently if circumstances demand, and will be devoted to reviews of matters of importance and significant events in foreign and domestic affairs, politics, commerce, art, science and local industries, which will be considered with reference to their interest and value to the people on the Pacific coast. The OCCIDENT has faith in the outcome of the coast country and believes that a prosperous and happy future awaits the people, if they will but be wise in their treatment of the great interests now in their hands, and so rapidly developing. Firm in the conviction that what is most nearly exactly right, is always most nearly the best, in both private and public affairs, all questions will be viewed from that standpoint, and any opinions expressed will be based upon that principle. It will be the endeavor to make the supplement as valuable for its interest in secular affairs, as THE OCCIDENT has always been for its devotion to the interests of the Church.

Texas was the greatest gainer in congressional representation by the census of 1880; but at the present rate of growth California bids fair to claim the proud distinction under the census of 1890.

The only wealthy man in British Columbia has made his money in coal mines, while numerous owners of gold mines reputed to be of fabulous value, are engaged in efforts to get together cash enough to pay their coal bills.

The sale of the Sutro tunnel will settle many vexatious questions and make practicable the development of many promising veins and prospects. It is hoped that the charges in the tunnel and mills may be so reduced as to admit of the profitable handling of large quantities of low grade ore in sight. It is held that the increased out-put at reduced rates would make such a change a profitable one to all concerned.

The bounty system for the encouragement of the beet-sugar industries, has long been in use in Germany and France. At first it was thought to be a great blessing, but it has been seen to be attended with very serious evils, and in both those countries its abolition is being considered. Would not Americans do well to hesitate and investigate its workings before adopting as a policy in our national affairs what the experience of those countries seem to lead them to desire to be rid of?

Coal has recently been found in the northern and central parts of the State, which is said to be of excellent quality. Cheaper fuel is one of the pressing needs on the coast, and the average coal mine is quite as valuable as the average gold mine. With fuel, abundant and cheap, our manufacturing interests would grow and

expand with wonderful rapidity. It would also materially decrease the cost of living. The fuel bills of an ordinary family on the coast, notwithstanding the mild climate, are as large as in the east, for fire is needed to secure a dry atmosphere indoors. It is the neglect of this, induced by the pleasant temperature, which causes many thoughtless persons to suffer from rheumatism.

The cultivation of the olive, for pickling, and for oil, seems to be the coming industry of this State. It will be many years before California can supply even the greater portion of the consumption of this country, meanwhile the industry should flourish and be very profitable. The number of trees is steadily increasing, and much valuable information is accumulating in relation to their most profitable varieties and their culture. Those first in the field will reap a rich harvest, though a most favorable feature of the industry is the stability of the market for the oil. Though the production of both pure and adulterated oils has increased very much in late years, the demand has quite kept pace with the increased supply, and new uses for the oil are found more rapidly than they can be met by the producers.

It is to be hoped that the Government Commission now engaged in the investigation of the mining-debris question, may find some solution, by which hydraulic mining may be continued under such restrictions as will fully protect other interests. Many miners are still so much inspired by the traditions of the past that they are loth to admit that the agricultural interests are now paramount in the State, and mining interest secondary in importance. Still they should be protected as far as practicable, and undoubtedly the recent restrictions have worked hardships in some cases. The feeling in some localities is very bitter, and those interested in hydraulic mining will doubtless make a vigorous fight before the commission.

It does not now seem probable that the French Government will undertake the completion of the Panama Canal, though it is undoubtedly much chagrined at the apparent inevitable failure of the present undertaking. So many serious difficulties and responsibilities of both a financial and international character, would attend an assumption of the enterprise by the government that it will hardly be openly done, but one may expect every effort short of that to be made to secure its completion under French patronage. France has always been dissatisfied with the control of the Suez Canal Company obtained by England, by the purchase of stock, and the government has been often severely censured for having permitted England to obtain the control, and for not having obtained it for France. French politicians have about as much consistency, and more impetuosity than

American, and so say some very silly things with most charming "abandon." But behind the actions of placing De Lesseps in charge of the construction of the Canal, and the approval of the French Government of the lottery scheme, and other methods of raising the necessary money in France, was undoubtedly a policy of retaining the control of the Panama Canal Company in that country, as an offset to the control of the Suez Canal by England. This hope now seems threatened with disappointment, and it may yet fall out that the Americans may secure it in real American fashion—waiting until it is sold out for debt, and then buying it cheap. Really, the Americans are more interested in the construction of a Canal between the oceans than any one else, and none more so than the people of the coast. It would at once render possible the export of the entire grain product of the State at a profit, and enormously increase the shipping trade of San Francisco, Portland, and the ports on Puget Sound. To the United States Government it would be almost invaluable in increasing the efficiency of the navy in the defense of our two sea coasts. It is doubtful, however, whether the interest in foreign enterprises is sufficiently developed in this country to lead Americans to take hold of either the Panama, or the Nicaragua Canal schemes.

The Chinese question will never be properly settled by hasty and intemperate action, and the threatened appeal to the elements and sentiments which organized and supported the "sand lots" excitement is to be deprecated as an effort to accomplish results, which are made to seem good, at the expense of evil effects which will outweigh an hundred fold the good, if any, which may come from such methods. The move is purely a political one, and the exigencies of local politics do not warrant a course so disastrous in its effects to both the commercial and moral interests of the community. The Chinese question can no more be settled by such methods than a person suffering from a severe poisonous wound can be instantly relieved, and completely cured by the application of strong caustic or the hot iron. In either case such radical treatment is sure to be both exceedingly painful and dangerous. The Chinese element among us, has become incorporated in our local economic system, and few fail to recognize that it has been a poison to the community. It must be overcome, however, as poisons in the body are eliminated by a long continued course of constitutional treatment. That severe restrictions should be placed upon further immigration, both as to the number and personal character of those coming, is only more apparent in the case of the Chinese than in that of the European immigrants. One suffering from a poison generally needs no more of it. In the treatment of

those already here, however, the matter is far from being so simple. Upon the basis of the registration for the last election, the white male population, between 18 and 50 years of age, is estimated at about 300,000. Of these possibly 200,000 are in such occupations and conditions of life as to come in more or less close competition with Chinese labor. The fixed Chinese population of the State, according to the best statistics, is at least 85,000, of whom possibly 75,000 come in direct competition with white labor. Thus out of a gross laboring population of 275,000, about 75,000, or about 27 per cent. are Chinese. This is believed to be a moderate statement of the case, but it is sufficient to indicate how intimately the Chinese have become interwoven into our labor systems. The attempt to change this suddenly by actions based upon sentiment and excited feelings, will surely work great damage to the material interests of the State, as well as serious moral injury to the community, through the disturbances and demoralization which would inevitably accompany them. Many enterprises have been built upon the basis of the cheap Chinese labor, and a sudden change would surely ruin them, and many whites connected with them in the higher capacities. But that such enterprises cannot gradually change their labor systems to the employment of white labor, is not so apparent as to make the argument for a further introduction of Chinese coolies yet seem a sound one. It will have to be done gradually, and the proprietors will, in many cases, have to forego some of the enormous profits which have accrued from the use of such cheap labor. This is the foundation of a certain pro-Chinese sentiment, which occasionally shows itself in unexpected places. It is quite a fashion on the coast to berate and denounce the Chinese. With most people, however, the anti-Chinese feeling is a sentiment, while the desire of the employer of Chinese cheap labor to realize the last possible dollar of profit is not a sentiment, but a positive and powerful principle of action. While these large employers are in the minority in numbers, they may still be able to control the action in the matter, of a very large proportion of the white laboring element, through its dependency upon them. The body of such large employers is always harmonious, well-organized, intelligent, rich, persistent, and quiet, while the opposition is generally inferior in nearly all these particulars. The balance of power is in the hands of the great middling classes, and their action should be directed by an intelligent understanding of the entire subject, and a conservative but positive sentiment. Hasty and intemperate action of the masses, misguided by those seeking only their own aggrandizement, will, in the inevitable reaction which follows undue excitement in the body politic, only increase the evil, instead of remedying it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Diamond mining may yet be added to the long list of industries profitable in this State. A number have been found and several cut and set. Some gentlemen, recently returned from South Africa, and familiar with the diamond mines of that country, say unhesitatingly they think diamonds exist in paying quantities in and near the gold fields of the State, and it is reported a body of land has been purchased for the purpose of testing the matter.

In searching for them, the patient methods of the Chinese would make them successful miners, as each spade full of earth must be carefully washed and every pebble critically examined, making the process very slow and laborious.

The necessity of better and larger navy yards on the Pacific coast is made apparent by the need of rapidly preparing vessels for the expedition to Samoa. The additions to the plant at Mare Island, for which appropriations have been made, will greatly improve that yard, and, doubtless, other and greater improvements will be made, such as to raise the post to the rank of a first class naval station. But the committee appointed by Congress to select the site for another navy yard should be at work, for since San Juan island has been awarded to the United States, England has begun the strengthening of Esquimaux, and an American naval station in the neighborhood of Puget Sound is needed both by our naval and merchant marine.

The California Fruit Union, which has been such an important factor in the opening of new markets for fruit, and in improving the methods of shipping and handling, held in annual session in the city last week.

The meeting was not entirely harmonious, and some spirited debates took place, but, as a rule, good feeling prevailed. The following Board of Trustees was elected: W. W. Buck, Vacaville; Sol. Runyon, Courtland; T. H. Buckingham, Vacaville; H. Weinstock, Sacramento; Eugene Gregory, Sacramento; P. E. Platt, Sacramento; R. B. Blowers, Woodland; Webster Treat, Davisville; J. Z. Anderson, San Jose. From this it is inferred that the conduct of the business of the union will not differ essentially from that of last year.

The aggregate number of votes cast in this State in the presidential election was about 250,000, and the total registration about 260,000. This would indicate a population of about 1,250,000, exclusive of Chinese, an increase of 50 per cent. in less than ten years. The annual number of immigrants does not materially increase, but the difference in character is very perceptible. They are now mostly persons of more or less means, coming in search of land for homes. The immigration of desirable laboring classes, and skilled artisans is still comparatively small, and far below the needs of the State, there is a demand for artisans of high intelligence and skill, and to such very high wages are paid.

The opening, in London, of a permanent exhibit of the products of this State, is one of the most advanced forms of advertising known. It is advertising, and through it the State bids for tourist travel, and seeks a market. But it is on the basis of a permanent exhibit which sets forth the worthiness of the State of the patronage of consumers and the visits of travellers. Such an advertisement will pay, because a fine exhibit can be maintained continu-

ously for a long time only by means of an ample and continuous supply of the necessary material. It is here, ready at hand, we all know, and its constant presence at the exhibition will be but an honest guarantee of the same fact to the Europeans, who will not be slow to appreciate it, and act accordingly.

It is gratifying to observe a strong tendency to subdivide the enormous tracts of land in the States and Territories of the coast, now held by a few individuals. In many localities large sums of money have been expended in advertising and inducing settlers to come there, who, when they arrived, found but little land for sale, and that at unreasonable prices. The representative of THE OCCIDENT was told by the land owners of one section, where a few men, owning from 1200 to 7000 acres each of good available land, control nearly all the country immediately surrounding a small railroad town, that they did not want any new comers, but would rather prefer to buy out the few small holders among them. Yet this is in the midst of a county whose board of trade and most enterprising citizens have been especially active in setting forth the advantages of their county as a place for settlement. In another locality in another county, the large land owners said they would not sell a lot of say 80 or 160 acres to a single settler, however desirable he might be personally, but would sell any entire holding, which might be from 1200 to 9000 acres, at one sale, to a colony or its representative. The price asked was very high, not for the very choice land, but for land of the medium or poorer grades. And yet the county has been very liberal in the use of money in advertising its advantages and inducements to immigrants. In both instances, the land owners deprecated the increase of assessments against their property, which is steadily increasing in value, as it will force them to utilize bodies of land which have thus far lain idle, and to devote much of it to crops that will pay better than grain. This, under the present labor system of the State is almost impracticable, and herein is the explanation of the tendency to subdivide some of these large tracts. The fact that the land could not be handled to the best advantage in such large tracts, was first recognized in the Southern portion of this State, where the average holding is very much smaller than in the country to the Northward. This was an important element in the growth of Southern California. The large ranches were early subdivided, so that the small farmer, that is small for California, always found land obtainable, while the land in each new section made available by irrigation, was offered for sale in comparatively small lots.

In the Central and Northern portions of the State, however, the absence of any necessity for irrigation, fostered a feeling that the value was in the land, and that it would naturally increase in value as the State developed, and therefore the more land a man held the richer he was sure to be. The increase of taxation and the difficulty of profitably cultivating the land, while the supply of labor in the State is so uncertain is reducing some of the large land owners to the condition of being "land poor," and many are advocating subdividing their tracts.

The conditions which are now leading to these subdivisions will lead to more, while the process of subdivision under administration upon the estates of many of the holders, who

are old settlers and rapidly passing away, will soon become an important element in the movement.

That this will be for the benefit of the States at large needs no argument. The most desirable immigrants are those who come with some capital, in money, and much in industry and energy, to purchase small farms and make homes for themselves. Not only do they add greatly to the wealth of the State, but they increase the moral strength of the community. The greatest curse under which the larger cities of the coast, notably San Francisco are laboring, is the lodging house system, which deprives the community of the moral strength derived from the possession by each family of its separate home. And to a great extent, the whole coast has suffered from a similar influence among the laboring classes. Large bodies of men are wanted upon large ranches at certain seasons, who are then turned adrift to find other employment equally temporary. This is demoralizing to the best of men, but when it is coupled with the facts that the bare necessities of life are cheap in these States, that in many sections but little more is needed in winter than in summer, it is easy to see how the laboring classes become sadly demoralized, and in those weakest morally, the spirit of the tramp is developed.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

Diamond mining may yet be added to the long list of industries profitable in this State. A number have been found and several cut and set. Some gentlemen, recently returned from South Africa, and familiar with the diamond mines of that country, say unhesitatingly they think diamonds exist in paying quantities in and near the gold fields of the State, and it is reported a body of land has been purchased for the purpose of testing the matter.

In searching for them, the patient methods of the Chinese would make them successful miners, as each spade full of earth must be carefully washed and every pebble critically examined, making the process very slow and laborious.

The necessity of better and larger navy yards on the Pacific coast is made apparent by the need of rapidly preparing vessels for the expedition to Samoa. The additions to the plant at Mare Island, for which appropriations have been made, will greatly improve that yard, and, doubtless, other and greater improvements will be made, such as to raise the post to the rank of a first class naval station. But the committee appointed by Congress to select the site for another navy yard should be at work, for since San Juan island has been awarded to the United States, England has begun the strengthening of Esquimaux, and an American naval station in the neighborhood of Puget Sound is needed both by our naval and merchant marine.

The California Fruit Union, which has been such an important factor in the opening of new markets for fruit, and in improving the methods of shipping and handling, held in annual session in the city last week.

The meeting was not entirely harmonious, and some spirited debates took place, but, as a rule, good feeling prevailed. The following Board of Trustees was elected: W. W. Buck, Vacaville; Sol. Runyon, Courtland; T. H. Buckingham, Vacaville; H. Weinstock, Sacramento; Eugene Gregory, Sacramento; P. E. Platt, Sacramento; R. B. Blowers, Woodland; Webster Treat, Davisville; J. Z. Anderson, San Jose. From this it is inferred that the conduct of the business of the union will not differ essentially from that of last year.

The aggregate number of votes cast in this State in the presidential election was about 250,000; and the total registration about 260,000. This would indicate a population of about 1,250,000, exclusive of Chinese, an increase of 50 per cent. in less than ten years. The annual number of immigrants does not materially increase, but the difference in character is very perceptible. They are now mostly persons of more or less means, coming in search of land for homes. The immigration of desirable laboring classes, and skilled artisans is still comparatively small, and far below the needs of the State, there is a demand for artisans of high intelligence and skill, and to such very high wages are paid.

The opening, in London, of a permanent exhibit of the products of this State, is one of the most advanced forms of advertising known. It is advertising, and through it the State bids for tourist travel, and seeks a market. But it is on the basis of a permanent exhibit which sets forth the worthiness of the State of the patronage of consumers and the visits of travellers. Such an advertisement will pay, because a fine exhibit can be maintained continu-

ously for a long time only by means of an ample and continuous supply of the necessary material. It is here, ready at hand, we all know, and its constant presence at the exhibition will be but an honest guarantee of the same fact to the Europeans, who will not be slow to appreciate it, and act accordingly.

It is gratifying to observe a strong tendency to subdivide the enormous tracts of land in the States and Territories of the coast, now held by a few individuals. In many localities large sums of money have been expended in advertising and inducing settlers to come there, who, when they arrived, found but little land for sale, and that at unreasonable prices. The representative of THE OCCIDENT was told by the land owners of one section, where a few men, owning from 1200 to 7000 acres each of good available land, control nearly all the country immediately surrounding a small railroad town, that they did not want any new comers, but would rather prefer to buy out the few small holders among them. Yet this is in the midst of a county whose board of trade and most enterprising citizens have been especially active in setting forth the advantages of their county as a place for settlement. In another locality in another county, the large land owners said they would not sell a lot of say 80 or 160 acres to a single settler, however desirable he might be personally, but would sell any entire holding, which might be from 1200 to 9000 acres, at one sale, to a colony or its representative. The price asked was very high, not for the very choice land, but for land of the medium or poorer grades. And yet the county has been very liberal in the use of money in advertising its advantages and inducements to immigrants. In both instances, the land owners deprecated the increase of assessments against their property, which is steadily increasing in value, as it will force them to utilize bodies of land which have thus far lain idle, and to devote much of it to crops that will pay better than grain. This, under the present labor system of the State is almost impracticable, and herein is the explanation of the tendency to subdivide some of these large tracts. The fact that the land could not be handled to the best advantage in such large tracts, was first recognized in the Southern portion of this State, where the average holding is very much smaller than in the country to the Northward. This was an important element in the growth of Southern California. The large ranches were early subdivided, so that the small farmer, that is small for California, always found land obtainable, while the land in each new section made available by irrigation, was offered for sale in comparatively small lots.

In the Central and Northern portions of the State, however, the absence of any necessity for irrigation, fostered a feeling that the value was in the land, and that it would naturally increase in value as the State developed, and therefore the more land a man held the richer he was sure to be. The increase of taxation and the difficulty of profitably cultivating the land, while the supply of labor in the State is so uncertain is reducing some of the large land owners to the condition of being "land poor," and many are advocating subdividing their tracts.

The conditions which are now leading to these subdivisions will lead to more, while the process of subdivision under administration upon the estates of many of the holders, who

are old settlers and rapidly passing away, will soon become an important element in the movement.

That this will be for the benefit of the States at large needs no argument. The most desirable immigrants are those who come with some capital, in money, and much in industry and energy, to purchase small farms and make homes for themselves. Not only do they add greatly to the wealth of the State, but they increase the moral strength of the community. The greatest curse under which the larger cities of the coast, notably San Francisco are laboring, is the lodging house system, which deprives the community of the moral strength derived from the possession by each family of its separate home. And to a great extent, the whole coast has suffered from a similar influence among the laboring classes. Large bodies of men are wanted upon large ranches at certain seasons, who are then turned adrift to find other employment equally temporary. This is demoralizing to the best of men, but when it is coupled with the facts that the bare necessities of life are cheap in these States, that in many sections but little more is needed in winter than in summer, it is easy to see how the laboring classes become sadly demoralized, and in those weakest morally, the spirit of the tramp is developed.

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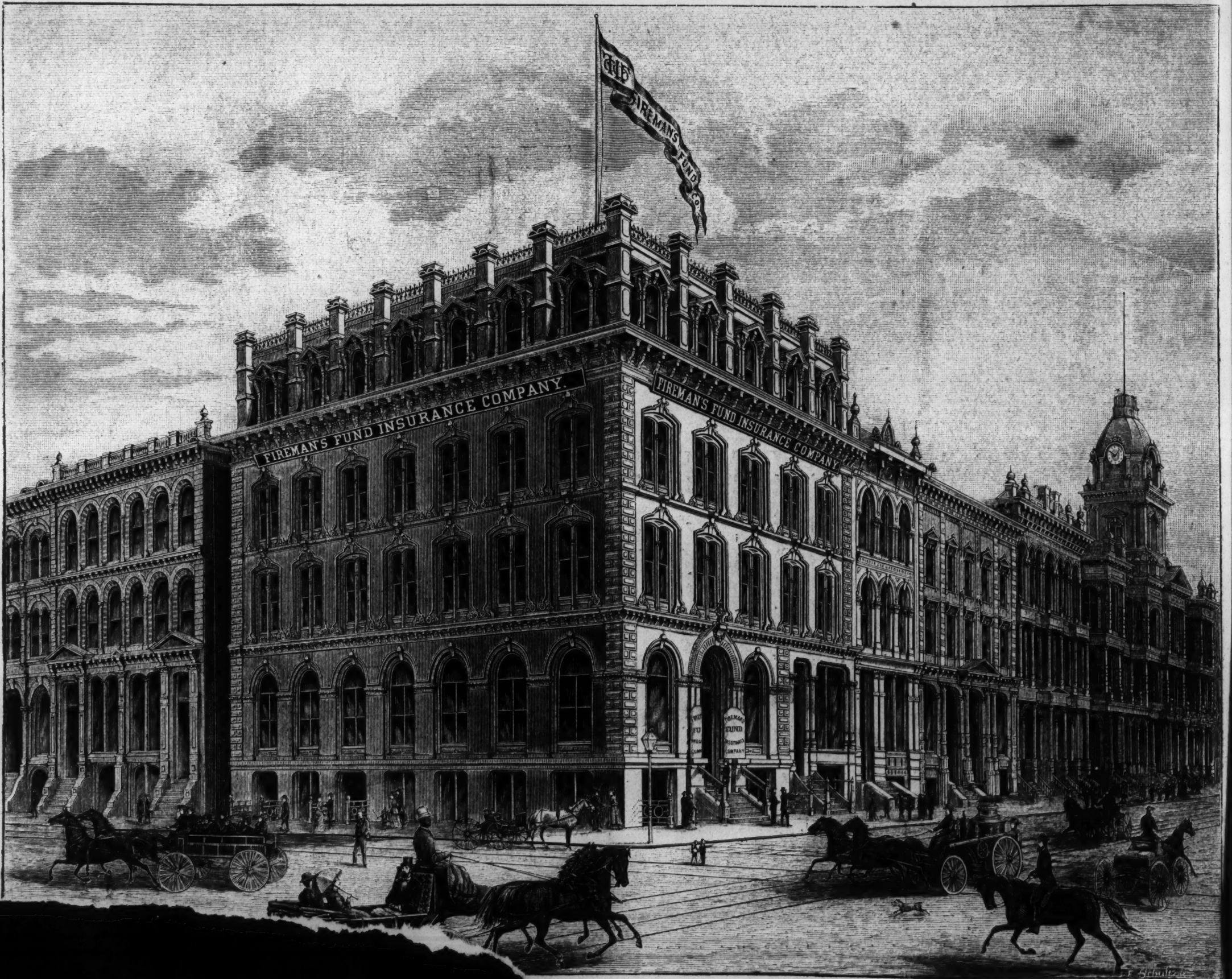
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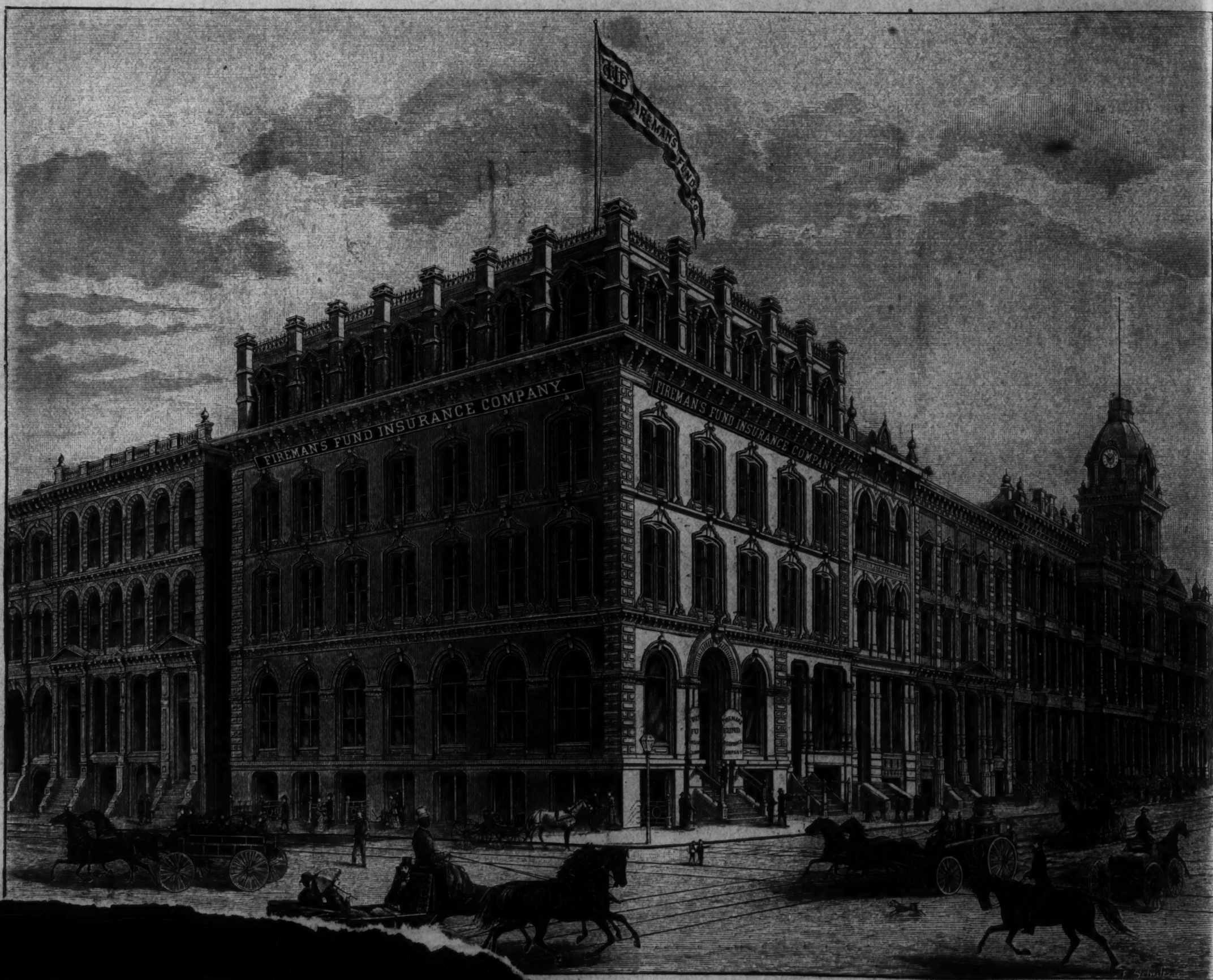
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